

# HYDROCHLORIC ACID

# (SOLUTION GREATER THAN 25%)

UN 1789

Shipping Name: Hydrochloric acid, solution Hydrogen chloride solution Other Names:

Muriatic acid



- WARNING! POISON! BREATHING THE VAPORS CAN KILL YOU! SKIN AND EYE CONTACT CAUSES SEVERE BURNS AND BLINDNESS!
  - Fire fighting gear (including SCBA) does not provide adequate protection. If exposure occurs, remove and isolate gear immediately and thoroughly decontaminate personnel

#### Hazards:

- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low areas
- Container may BLEVE when exposed to fire
- Reacts with common metals to produce flammable hydrogen gas

# **Awareness and Operational Level Training** Response:

- Do not put yourself in danger by entering a contaminated area to rescue a victim
- Stay upwind and uphill
- Determine the extent of the problem
- Isolate the area around the release and deny
- For container exposed to fire evacuate the area in all directions because of the risk of BLEVE
- Evacuate or shelter in place the immediate area and downwind for a large release
- Notify local health and fire officials and pollution control agencies
- If material or contaminated runoff enters waterways, notify downstream users of potentially contaminated water

### Description:

- Colorless to light yellow liquid
- Depending upon concentration may fume upon release
- Sharp pungent irritating odor
- Soluble in water
- Nonflammable
- Vapors are heavier than air and will collect and stay in low

# **Operational Level Training Response:**

RELEASE, NO FIRE:

- Stop the release if it can be done safely from a distance
- Prevent material and runoff from entering sewers and waterways if it can be done safely well ahead of the release
- Use large amounts of water to disperse vapors contain
- Ventilate confined area if it can be done without placing personnel at risk

#### FIRE:

- Material does not burn; fight surrounding fire with an agent appropriate for the burning material
- Cool exposed containers with large quantities of water from unattended equipment or remove intact containers if it can be done safely
- If cooling streams are ineffective (venting sound increases in volume and pitch, tank discolors or shows any signs of deforming), withdraw immediately to a secure location

#### First Aid:

- Do not put yourself in danger by entering a contaminated area to rescue a victim
- Provide Basic Life Support/CPR as needed
- Decontaminate the victim as follows:
  - ♦ Inhalation remove the victim to fresh air and give oxygen if available
  - Skin remove and isolate contaminated clothing (including shoes) and wash skin with soap and large volumes of water for 15 minutes
  - Eye rinse eyes with large volumes of water or saline for 15 minutes
  - Swallowed do not make the victim vomit
- Seek medical attention
- Toxic effects may be delayed
- For skin burns decontaminate with water and apply a clean dry dressing

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